

DRAFT
KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2005
EXCHANGE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM 6A

Members Present: Melody Cecilia James, Helen Nilon, James Nobles, Ron Sterling, Eugene Wan, Nancy Witherbee

Members Absent: Eleanor Owen (excused), Allan Panitch (excused), Gwendolyn Williams (unexcused)

Guests Present: Liz J. Eddy (board applicant)

Staff Present: Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Board Chair Ron Sterling convened the meeting at 4:37 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helen Nilon: NAMI Eastside will hold a forum on Tuesday, November 15th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Evergreen Hospital in Kirkland. Bob Leeds from Positive Solutions will discuss benefit solutions, including the latest information on Medicaid and Medicare.

Ericka Horn is coming on as Executive Director of Hero House. Abe Kriger has led the development of this clubhouse model. Abe is this year's recipient of an MHCADSD Exemplary Service Award.

NAMI-Greater Seattle will hold a Medicare Part D Seminar on Wednesday, November 16th from 9:30am to 3:30pm in Seattle Center.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD RETREAT MINUTES

Helen Nilon made a motion, which was seconded by Jim Nobles, to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2005 Board retreat as submitted. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. CHAIRPERON'S REPORT

A. Review of Board Liaison/Committee Assignments

The board firmed up the following Board **Agency Liaison** assignments:

District Mental Health Court– ***Jim Nobles***

Community Psychiatric Clinic - ***Eugene Wan***

Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation - ***Ron Sterling***

Evergreen Healthcare/Seattle Mental Health - ***Helen Nilon***

Children's Hospital and Medical Center - ***Melody Cecilia James***

Seattle Children's Home, or YMCA - ***Allan Panitch***

Highline West Seattle MH Center/Western Hospital – ***Eleanor Owen***

Therapeutic Health Services – ***Gwendolyn Williams***

Harborview Mental Health Services – ***Nancy Dow-Witherbee***

Partnership Group Meeting – ***Helen Nilon***

The following are Board **sub-committee** assignments:

Recovery Initiatives Committee – ***Eleanor Owen, Eugene Wan,***
Nancy Dow-Witherbee

Legislative Advocacy Committee – ***Eleanor Owen, Melody Cecilia James,***
Jim Nobles

Quality Council – ***Helen Nilon, Ron Sterling***

V. PRESENTATION – Liz Gilbert

Liz Gilbert's scheduled briefing on the revised Quality Management Plan is postponed until further notice. She is on indefinite medical leave. Revised Quality Management Plan will be ready for board distribution at next month's board meeting.

At the December 13, 2005 board meeting, Barbara Vannatter will do a Wraparound/IST presentation.

Helen Nilon recommended inviting Evergreen Healthcare to do a presentation about their agency and their services at the January 10, 2006 board meeting.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee

Jim Nobles reported that the focus of discussion at the October 28th meeting was the legislative forum. There is a plan to hold a roundtable discussion on co-occurring disorders by a bi-partisan group. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16th to firm up the details of the Legislative Forum.

Legislative priorities for mental health are funding allocations in the next legislative session and the legal action taken by the County with the Department of Social and Health Services.

Nominations Update – Helen Nilon

Lisbeth Eddy is a candidate for board membership. Helen asked her to give a brief introduction of herself. Liz stated that she works for the City of Seattle, Police Department. She serves as liaison for mental health, as liaison with mental health providers, with municipal court, with DMHPs, and works with families of mentally ill and chemically dependent clients. She also trains police officers on how to deal with COD clients through the SPD Crisis Intervention Team training. Melody Cecilia James recommended scheduling Liz for an in-house training next year with interested board members on how she conducts training with police officers.

Helen Nilon asked the board to help recruit new board candidates.

Quality Council – Helen Nilon

There was no Quality Council meeting on September 27, 2005 due to lack of quorum. Ron Sterling submitted a work plan that was not presented at the meeting.

Ron Sterling reported that at the Quality Council meeting on October 25, 2005, Liz Gilbert briefed them on the RFQ process and briefly discussed the work plan he submitted. He will work with Helen to make some revisions on the work plan.

VII. STAFF REPORT

A. Review of Some Items from Board Retreat Minutes

A list of answers from unanswered questions and future tasks from the board retreat will be provided to board members at the December 13, 2005 regular board meeting.

Barbara Vannatter will do a Wraparound/IST presentation next month.

B. Letter to DSHS

Copies of a letter to the State Department of Social and Health Services were distributed. The letter is intended to initiate the dispute resolution process as defined in the RSN State contract. The letter identified five major areas of dispute for resolution. These include Medicaid funding, non-Medicaid funding, liquidated damages, state hospital access for patients detained/committed for 72 hours/14 days, and state hospital access and payment responsibility for patients committed for 90 days and longer.

Our contention is that the State hospital is responsible for providing long-term involuntarily commitment to patients. The Division is also suing the State DSHS for unwarranted assessment of liquidated damages based on improper bed allocation formula. Copy of this letter was sent to other interested parties.

C. Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Currently a major bulk of work for the Division staff is responding to the RFQ. This RFQ is due for submission on December 1, 2005. There are some serious questions regarding some of the requirements of the RFQ. Some "new" items would more appropriately fall into an RFP, rather than an RFQ. On November 2nd, an amended RFQ was received. Even with an amended RFQ, it would take an enormous time for the Division staff to complete the project but the due date remains the same.

Eugene inquired if the requirements of the RFQ have been used in other states. Jean responded in the affirmative.

Jean stated that the RFQ requires a 10% penetration rate. King County is one of only 3 counties with this penetration rate. It would cost approximately \$32M to achieve this 10% penetration rate, which is costly and unrealistic.

Would it be more cost effective for small RSNs to be privatized? It will be more costly to privatize managed care.

D. Recovery Ordinance Update

The Recovery Plan has been approved and will go to full Council for a vote on Monday.

Highline West Seattle Mental Health is holding a two-day training by META, from Arizona, which is a recovery oriented agency. Jean stated that an element of the

Recovery Plan is to highlight agencies that are implementing recovery practices and use them as models for the rest of the provider network.

There was a discussion on Certified Peer Counselor, as a Medicaid modality. Certified Peer Counselor list is not public information due to the Mental Health Division's interpretation of HIPAA. Certified Peer Counselors are starting to get employed. Harborview Medical Center has posted a vacant position for this job.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Jim Nobles, Chronic Populations Action Council (CPAC)

CPAC has been replaced by Adult Homelessness Work Group to be chaired by Lynn Davidson.

Helen Nilon, Seattle Mental Health, Partnership

Seattle Mental Health is providing disaster outreach services for the King County region for individuals who evacuated to our State after Hurricane Katrina. If these individuals come to an agency with needs, they can be referred to 1-800-941-2979.

The agency is providing co-occurring disorders services in East County and expanded transitional services funded by the County with State dollars under the new RSN contract.

At the Partnership Meeting, it was announced that there will be no first quarter non-Medicaid allocation for 2006. Most heavily affected by this are immigrants. There is a possibility that there will not be funding for spenddown in 2006. When someone is in spenddown, their services cannot be paid for with Medicaid. David Johnson gave a report on a presentation given at the Mental Health Task Force meeting last October 18th. He expressed the need to re-educate legislators about the problem we face.

Jean stated that an Action Alert will be sent to the board to assist them in asking their congressional representatives to oppose the proposed House budget, including the proposed cuts to various social services.

IX. BOARD AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS/NEW BUSINESS

Eugene asked for an update from the committee assigned to discuss the format of Board meeting outside of the Exchange Building. He also asked for a calendar of legislative items that will affect the county.

X. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28pm.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit
Recording Secretary

Ron Sterling
Board Chair